In the claims:

Please amend claims 15, 20-24, 38, 46 and 55 as follows:

(All the pending claims, 15-55 are reproduced for the Examiner's convenience)

15. (Amended) A diagnostic test kit for detecting the presence of or predisposition for breast cancer, wherein a means is provided for detecting a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides from a BRCA1 gene in a sample, wherein said deletion comprises at least a major part of exon 13 and/or at least a major part of exon 22.

16. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 15, wherein the means comprises at least one probe for hybridization.

17. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 15, wherein the means comprises the necessary elements for Southern blotting.

18. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 16, wherein the probe comprises a sequence complementary to sequences on both sides of the deletion in the BRCA1 gene.

19. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 17, wherein the necessary elements for Southern blotting comprises a probe, the probe comprising a sequence complementary to sequences on both sides of the deletion in the BRCA1 gene.

20. (Amended) A diagnostic test kit according to claim 15, wherein the deletion comprises all of exon 13 and/or exon 22 of the BRCA1 gene.

21. (Amended) A diagnostic test kit according to claim 16, wherein the deletion comprises all of one exon 13 and/or exon 22 of the BRCA1 gene.

22. (Amended) A diagnostic test kit according to claim 17, wherein the deletion comprises all of exon 13 and/or exon 22 of the BRCA1 gene.

23. (Amended) A diagnostic test kit according to claim 18, wherein the deletion comprises all of exon 13 and/or exon 22 of the BRCA1 gene.

24. (Amended) A diagnostic test kit according to claim 19, wherein the deletion comprises all of exon 13 and/or exon 22 of the BRCA1 gene.

25. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 15, wherein the deletion comprises a frame shift and/or a termination codon.

26. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 16, wherein the deletion comprises a frame shift and/or a termination codon.

27. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 17, wherein the deletion comprises a frame shift and/or a termination codon.

28. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 18, wherein the deletion comprises a frame shift and/or a termination codon.

29. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 19, wherein the deletion comprises a frame shift and/or a termination codon.

30. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 20, wherein the deletion comprises a frame shift and/or a termination codon.

31. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 15, wherein the deletion comprises a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides between two ALU-elements.

32. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 16, wherein the deletion comprises a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides between two ALU-elements.

33. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 17, wherein the deletion comprises a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides between two ALU-elements.

34. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 18, wherein the deletion comprises a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides between two ALU-elements.

35. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 19, wherein the deletion comprises a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides between two ALU-elements.

36. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 20, wherein the deletion comprises a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides between two ALU-elements.

37. A diagnostic test kit according to claim 25, wherein the deletion comprises a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides between two ALU-elements.

38. (Amended) A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit for detecting the presence of or predisposition for breast cancer, wherein a means is provided for detecting a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides from a BRCA1 gene in a sample, and wherein the deletion comprises at least a major part of exon 13 and/or at least a major part of exon 22; said probe comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.

39. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 38, wherein the means comprises at least one probe for hybridization, the probe comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.

40. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 38, wherein the means comprises the necessary elements for Southern blotting, comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.

41. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 18, comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.

42. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 19 comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.

43. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 20 comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.

44. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 25 comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.

45. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 31 comprising a nucleotide sequence which is a fusion of two ALU elements of the BRCA1 gene.

46. (Amended) A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 15, wherein the deletion comprises at least a major part of exon 13 and/or at least a major part of exon 22, and wherein the probe comprises a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.

47. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 16, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.

48. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 17, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.

49. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 18, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.

50. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 19, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.

51. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 20, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.

52. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 25, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.

53. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 31, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.

54. A probe for use in a diagnostic test kit according to claim 38, which is a fusion product of two sequences adjacent to the site of a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides.

55. (Amended) A method of determining the presence in a sample of a nucleic acid derived from a BRCA1 gene having a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides, comprising contacting said sample with at least one probe which alone or together with a second means for detecting said deletion of a stretch of nucleotides from a BRCA1 gene, distinguishes between BRCA1 genes having said deletion and BRCA1 genes not having said deletion, allowing hybridization between said probe and said nucleic acids to form a hybridization product and identifying the hybridization product, wherein said deletion comprises at least a major part of exon 13 and/or at least a major part of exon 22.